GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2672
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2006
SMALL FARMERS` AGRI- BUSINESS CONSORTIUM FOR NER
Sarma Dr. Arun Kumar

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Mini Mission on Horticulture is being implemented by Small Farmers` Agri- Business Consortium for the North Eastern Region (NER);

(b) if so, the details thereof including the funds earmarked, date of sanctioning of project;

(c) the reasons for very slow and low impact of its implementation; and

(d) the steps taken to make it more effective?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): Small Farmers` Agri- Business Consortium (SFAC), a society under Ministry of Agriculture is one of the agencies involved in implementation of Mini Mission −II, III & IV of Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern Region. Details of the year − wise funds allocated and released since the date of sanction of the Mission i.e., February, 2001 are as under:

IX plan

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Allocation	Release
2001-02	67.25	67.25

X plan (Outlay-Rs.585 crores)

Year	Allocation	Release
2002-03	120.00	91.00
2003-04	120.00	92.39
2004-05	144.50	129.52
2005-06	130.00	132.69
2006-07	150.00	59.83 (Tilldate)
Total(X plan)		505.43 (Till date)

(c)&(d): The scheme is being implemented in a mission mode approach to address all the issues related to development of horticulture inter alia production of planting material; development, refinement and demonstration of technologies, production and productivity improvement, post harvest management, marketing, processing and value addition of horticultural produce.

The implementation of the Mission has helped in bringing an additional area of 1,17,872 ha. of various horticulture crops in North Eastern States, which is 34 % increase over the area during the pre-mission period (2000-2001). The infrastructure facilities created such as nurseries, tissue culture units, community water tanks, tube wells, drip irrigation, green houses, mushroom units, vermi-compost units and others have helped in production of adequate quality planting material and also in improving in production and productivity of horticultural crops in the region.

Details of additional area brought under different horticulture crops and other infrastructure facilities created under the Mission are given in annexure I & II.

Annexure – I

Additional area brought under horticulture crops under Mini Mission-II during the period 2001-02 to 2005-06 in NE states (ha)

NE States	Fruits	Vege-tables	Flowers & Plan-tation crops	Spices	Medicinal and arom-atic plants	Total
Arun. Pradesh	9987	2460	410	5650	2857	21364
Assam	5515	1391	281	3998	200	11385
Manipur	6456	2186	348	2638	225	11853
Meghalaya	4672	2042	99	2830	313	9956
Mizoram	10994	3427	1272	2781	449	18923
Nagaland	7891	2550	507	4127	2037	16663
Sikkim	3730	4225	994	7533	20	16502
Tripura	5728	2698	128	2645	27	11226
Total	54973	20979	4039	32202	5679	117872

Annexure – II

Infrastructure facilities created under Technology Mission on Horticulture in North Eastern states.

	NE
I. Production of Quality Planting Material	
1. Establishment of Nurseries (Nos.)	355
II. Creation of Water resources	
1. Community Tanks (Nos.)	3637
2. Tube Wells (Nos.)	2128
3. Drip irrigation (ha)	3284
4. Mulching (ha)	1493
III. Facilities for Improved Management practices	
A. Protected Cultivation	
1. Green Houses (500Sq.M)(No.)	1611
2. Green houses (100Sq.m) (No.)	453
3. Model Floriculture Centres (No.)	11
B. IPM/INM	
1. IPM (ha)	2766
2. Disease forecasting units (No.)	19
3. Biological labs (No.)	2
4. Leaf analysis labs (No.)	10
5. Plant health Clinics (No.)	11
C. Organic farming	
1. Organic farming (ha)	5559
2. Earthworm units (Nos.)	4056

D. Infrastructure for training

1. Gardener training centers (No.) 51
2. Supervisory training centers (No.) 21

E. Market Infrastructure

1. Whole Sale Markets 29
2. Rural Primary Markets 243
3. Apni Mandies 43
4. State Grading Laboratories 16

F. Infrastructure for Processing

1. Processing Units 9